

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINSHA 04352 01 OF 02 091331Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PC-01 ACDA-07

OC-06 CCO-00 SY-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OPR-02 A-01

MCT-01 SCA-01 SCS-03 DHA-02 EB-07 AID-05 /127 W

-----091400Z 095071 /45

O 091130Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3475

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

US MISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1409

US MISSION NATO IMMEDIATE 111

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ-4/7 IMMEDIATE

SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE

USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 KINSHASA 4352

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN PLEASE PASS AMB. CUTLER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS PINS AEMR CG AO

SUBJECT: SHABA INVASION: SITREP 55 (MAY 9, 1977)

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KINSHA 04352 01 OF 02 091331Z

1. FOLLOWING IS THE 55TH MISSION WIDE SURVEY INCLUDING REPORTS FROM LUBUMBASHI.

2. MILITARY SITUATION AS OF 081530Z MAY 77.

NOTE: ALL GEOGRAPHIC REFERENCES ARE TAKEN FROM JOINT OPERATION GRAPHIC SERIES 1501 MAPS.

2. HOSTILE FORCES:

A. ONE OF THE POWS, DURING INTERROGATION, BY DDN, STATED THAT THE INVADERS KNEW THAT THEY WERE BEATEN AFTER THE BATTLE OF LUFUPA STATION (1037S/2456E). WHEN ASKED IF HE WERE STILL WITH HIS UNIT WHAT WOULD HE AND HIS FRIENDS DO, HE SAID, RETURN TO CHICAPA (0718S/2456E), WHERE HE HAD COME FROM BEFORE THE INVASION.

B. ANOTHER TWO POW'S WERE TAKEN BY COL. IKUKU'S FORCES ON 6 MAY ON THE ROAD TO DILOLO. BOTH WERE RECENT RECRUITS FROM THE AREA. TEN GRAVES OF HOSTILE FORCES WERE ALSO FOUND. THE POW'S SAID GETTING FOOD WAS A PROBLEM BECAUSE ALL THE VILLAGERS HAD FLED.

C. FAZ FORCES FOUND AN EXPENDED SAM 7 ANTI-AIRCRAFT MISSILE LAUNCHER. EXACT LOCATION WAS UNKNOWN, BUT THEY WERE SENT FOR IT AFTER AN INVADER RADIO MESSAGE WAS MONITORED WHICH ADMONISHED THE MISSILE FOR MISSING A FAZA AIRCRAFT. THE MESSAGE INCLUDED THE FACT THAT THE TEAM WOULD BE REPLACED BY A BETTER TEAM. A DDN SOURCE STATED THAT THE MESSAGE LED DDN TO BELIEVE THAT THE MISSILE AND/OR THE TEAM CAME FROM MOZAMBIQUE.

D. A DDN SOURCE STATED THAT TWO MPLA BATTALIONS ARE IN DEFENSIVE POSITIONS IN CABINDA NEAR THE ZAIRIAN BORDER. TWO OTHERS IN ANGOLA, ONE NEAR CUANGO (0615S/1649E) AND THE OTHER NEAR PORTUGALIA (0720S/2050E).

E. THE INVADERS CHANGED THEIR RADIO CODE IN THE CLEAR ON 6 MAY, BUT DDN WAS ONLY ABLE TO MONITOR A PORTION OF THE CHANGES.

F. LOCAL PRESS REPORTS THAT INTERROGATION OF A POW REVEALED THE FOLLOWING:

Q) POW WHO WAS ARMED WITH ARROWS WAS CAPTURED WHILE ON A RE-CONNAISSANCE MISSION. TWO OTHER HOSTILES ON SAME MISSION WERE CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KINSHA 04352 01 OF 02 091331Z

KILLED AND A THIRD EXCAPED.

2) ACCORDING TO THE POW, DURING THE HOSTILE OCCUPATION OF SHABA, THE "MERCENARIES" PERPETRATED BARBARIC ACTS OF VANDALISM: I.E. RAPE, PILLAGE, PLUNDER AND MASSACRES. THEY ALSO INTRODUCED COUNTERFEIT ZAIRIAN CURRENCY IN OCCUPIED ZONES.

3) IN RESPONSE TO A DIRECT QUESTION THE POW REVEALED THE PRESENCE OF "LIGHT SKINNED" PORTUGUESE SPEAKING PERSONS WHO LEAD AND ACCOMPANIED THE KATANGA GENDARMES.

G. LOCAL PRESS ALSO REPORTS INTERROGATION OF A POW "SNIPER" REVEALED THE FOLLOWING:

1) POW RECEIVED HIS SNIPER TRAINING FROM RUSSIAN INSTRUCTORS IN ANGOLA.

2) THE "MERCENARIES" REPLACED THE ZAIRIAN CURRENCY OF ALL RESIDENTS IN OCCUPIED ZONE WITH CURRENCY OF THE "NEW REPUBLIC."

3) FAZA AIRCRAFT ARE NOT BEING DAMAGED BECAUSE ALL RUSSIAN TRAINED FIRERS WERE KILLED IN A RECENT BOMBING.

3. ZAIRIAN FORCES:

A. COL IKUKU'S FORCE AFTER TAKING SANIKOSA (1027S/2350E)

HAVE REACHED A POINT 6 KMS EAST OF A COPPER MINE (1027S/2339E) 20 KMS EAST OF KASAJI (1022S/2328E). THEY PLAN TO CONTINUE THROUGH THE NIGHT IN AN ATTEMPT TO TAKE KASAJI ON 9 MAY.

B. THE TASK FORCE MOVING SOUTH TOWARD KAPANGA IS WITHIN 30 KMS OF KAPANGA. A COMPANY COMMANDED BY CAPTAIN SUMBU IS AT THE LULUA RIVER (0812S/2234E), BUT CANNOT CROSS THE RIVER. HE HAS BEEN TOLD TO CONTINUE SOUTH ON THE WEST SIDE OF THE RIVER AND SET UP A POSITION ACROSS THE RIVER FROM KAPANGA. ANOTHER COMPANY HAS GONE DOWN THE ROAD PARALLELING THE ANGOLAN BORDER AND REACHED SAMUNGANGA (0834S/2207E). ENROUTE THEY FOUND 81 MM AND 60 MM MORTARS WITH AMMUNITION. ALSO ANTI-TAK AND ANTI-PERSONNEL MINES, TNT, DETONATION CORD, AND SMALL ARMS AMMUNITION. THE BATTALION MINUS PORTION OF THE FORCE HAS REACHED KATAPAKISHI (0814S/2247E). THEY ARE WAITING THERE FOR SMALL ELEMENTS TRAVELING ON SECONDARY ROADS TO REGROUP FOR THE ATTACK ON KAPANGA.

C. THE KABANGU BATTALION IS MOVING TOWARD SAMYUEMBA  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 KINSHA 04352 01 OF 02 091331Z

(0941S/2231E) WHICH THEY ARE EXPECTED TO TAKE 9 MAY AND CONTINUE TOWARD SANDUMBA (0940S/2314E). THE VUADI BATTALION WILL MOVE TO SAMYEMBA AND PUT THEIR COMMAND POST AT KAFAKUMBA (0940S/2346E).

4. MOROCCAN FORCES: NO CHANGE REPORTED.

5. OTHER SUPPORT FORCES:

A. THE CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE IS TRYING TO SEND 450 SEASONED TROOPS WITHOUT SUPPLIES OR EQUIPMENT. PRESIDENT MOBUTU HAS TOLD DDN TO FIND A GOOD DIPLOMATIC REASON TO TURN THEM DOWN. DDN TOLD THE CAE TO GET PREPARED WITH SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT AND AS SOON AS AN AIRPLANE IS FREE THEY WILL BE PICKED UP. THE AIRCRAFT IS NEVER EXPECTED TO BE FREE.

B. FRANCE:

1) DDN HAS BEEN TOLD THAT THE PRESIDENT OF FRANCE SAID ALL SUPPORT WOULD CEASE IF THE NAPALM IN KOLWEZI IS USED  
2) THE FRENCH ARE SENDING A HELICOPTER MAINTENANCE TEAM TO KOLWEZI (1043S/2528E).

6. AIR:

A. THE MACCHI'S HIT THREE TRUCKS NEAR DILOLO 7 MAY UNDER THE DIRECTION OF A FORWARD AIR CONTROLLER (FAC) IN A CESSNA. THE FAC IS A BELGIAN CITIZEN.

B. TWO MACCHI'S FROM KANANGA (0545S/2225E) TO KOLWEZI, FOR A TOTAL OF FIVE AT KOLWEZI.

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 KINSHA 04352 02 OF 02 091320Z  
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04  
H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01  
SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00 PC-01 ACDA-07  
OC-06 CCO-00 SY-05 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OPR-02 A-01  
MCT-01 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 EB-07 AID-05 /127 W  
-----091402Z 094912 /45

O 091215Z MAY 77  
FM AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 3476  
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY RABAT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE  
US MISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1410  
US MISSION NATO IMMEDIATE 112  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER//ECJ-4/7 IMMEDIATE  
SECDEF WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI IMMEDIATE  
USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
DIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 KINSHASA 4352

PASS PEACE CORPS

USIA FOR IAA, IOP

C. THE EGYPTIAN PILOTS ARE TRAINING EVERY DAY AT N'DJILI  
AIRPORT IN MIRAGE AIRCRAFT. THE FRENCH MIRAGE MISSION SAY  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 KINSHA 04352 02 OF 02 091320Z

THEY ARE GOOD PILOTS.

7. DOMESTIC PRESS: KINSHASA MEDIA PLAY MAY 9 RATHER SUBDUE WITH  
LATEST CAPTURED PRISONER'S REVELATIONS GIVEN INSIDE PLAY BY

"ELIMA" WHILE "SALONGO" DIGESTS ALL DEVELOPMENTS IN PAGE2  
ROUND-UP ARTICLE RECAPTURE OF SANIKOSA PLAYED BIG BY "SALONGO"  
WHICH ALSO NOTES "A VERITABLE MASSACRE IN THE RANKS OF THE  
MERCENARIES" BUT AS USUAL NO DETAILS. MAMAS MARCH POSTPONED,  
SAYS KINSHASA MAYOR SAKOMBI, BECAUSE MOBUTU NOT ABLE TO ATTEND.  
"ELIMA" EDITORIAL -- "MERCENARIES OF THE PEN" -- BLASTS FOREIGN  
PRESS FOR SPREADING FALSE NEWS ABOUT THE SHABA INVASION. "WORSE  
STILL, CERTAIN COMMENTATORS OF THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS HAVE  
CONTINUED TO PUT IN DOUBT THE PARTICIPATION OF THE SOVIET  
UNION AND CUBA IN THE AGGRESSION OF WHICH ZAIRE IS THE VICTIM,"  
SAYS EDITORIAL. " THE LACK OF OBJECTIVITY AND THE MANIFEST  
PARTIALITY" SHOWN BY CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE FOREIGN PRESS  
"CAN ONLY SERVE THE INTERESTS OF THE SOVIETS WHOSE EXPANSIONIST  
AIMS IN AFRICA ESCAPT NO ONE." MAY 9 ISSUE OF "ZAIRE" MAGAZINE  
ALSO HITS FOREIGN PRESS FOR WANTING TO COVER SHABA EVENTS FROM  
HOSTILES' SIDE. "FOR WHAT PURPOSE?" QUESTIONS THE MAGAZINE,  
WHICH THEN NOTES THAT THIS ATTITUDE IS "AMBIGIOUS AND TROUBLING,  
IF NOT STRANGE LIKE THAT OF NETO..." A MAY 8 "ELIMA STORY ALSO  
REPORTED FAZ SPOKESMAN STATEMENT THAT JOURNALISTS COULD GO  
TO THE BATTLEFIELD AND FILM THE RECENTLY TAKEN HOSTILE POSITIONS  
AND HOSTILE DEAD, ONCE NECESSARY TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS CAN BE  
MADE AND MOBUTU APPROVAL RECEIVED.

8. DOMESTIC POLITICAL SITUATION:

A. KINSHAS - BUSINESS AS USUAL. THE MARCH BY KINSHASA'S  
"MAMA" TO SHOW THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR MOBUTU, SCHEDULED  
FOR 8 MAY, WAS AGAIN POSTPONED TO AN UNSPECIFIED FUTURE TIME AT  
MOBUTU'S OWN "RECOMMENDATION" ACCORDING TO PRESS. MOBUTU IS  
STILL IN THE SHABA CONDUCTING "INSPECTION TOURS" AND INDICATED  
HIS DESIRE TO PERSONALLY ATTEND THE MARCH.

B. LUBUMBASHI: ANOTHER QUIET WEEKEND.

C. KOLWEZI:  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 KINSHA 04352 02 OF 02 091320Z

1) ALL THE EUROPEANS WITH GECAMINES IN KOLWEZI STOPPED WORK  
AT NOON ON MAY 6 FOR THE FUNERAL OF THE ITALIAN ENGINEER  
KILLED AT A BARRICADE BY ZAIRIAN SOLDIERS TWO DAYS EARLIER,  
(SITREP 52). APPROXIMATELY 1000 PEOPLE MARCHED IN THE FUNERAL  
PROCESSION THAT AFTERNOON FROM THE CATHEDRAL TO THE CEMETERY.  
AT 0530 THE FOLLOWING MORNING, TWO SOLDIERS WERE SHOT FOR THE  
MURDER, REPORTEDLY BY DIRECT ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT. THREE  
OTHER SODIERS ARE THOUGHT TO BE STILL AT LARGE.

2) AFTER HIS SATURDAY MORN VISIT TO KANANGA AND LUIZA THE  
PRESIDENT SPENT THE REMAINDER OF THE WEEKEND IN THE KOLWEZI  
AREA. WHEN ONE MEMBER OF HIS PARTY WAS ASKED ABOUT THE PRESI-  
DENT'S PLANS FOR THE FUTURE, HE RESPONDED THAT HE DID NOT  
THINK EVEN THE PRESIDENT KNEW.

D. KAMINA: NO CHANGE REPORTED.

9. DIPLOMATIC ACTIVITY:

A. FOREIGN MINISTER NGUZA RECEIVED THE EGYPTIAN AND MOROCCAN AMBASSADORS FOR A JOINT AUDIENCE ON MAY 8 TO DISCUSS VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THEIR COOPERATIVE EFFORTS. IN A SEPARATE AUDIENCE THE SAME DAY NGUZA RECEIVED THE WEST GERMAN AMBASSADOR TO DISCUSS THE MAY 12 MEETING OF THE GERMAN-ZAIRE COMMISSION AND THE MAY 16 VISIT OF VICE CHANCELLOR/FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER TO ZAIRE. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH IT WAS NOT REPORTED IN THE PRESS, WE ASSUME THAT THE RECENTLY RELEASED JOURNALISTS WERE ALSO DISCUSSED. END COMMENT.

B. AGENCE ZAIRE PRESS PRODUCED FAVORABLE COVERAGE OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROMANIAN INDEPENDENCE, MAY 9. STORY RECITED HISTORY OF GOOD RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES, NOTING MOBUTU'S 1970 VISIT TO BUCHAREST, CEASUSECU'S RETURN VISIT TO ZAIRE IN 1972, AND REFERRED TO THE EXCHANGE OF MILITARY VISITS BY THEIR RESPECTIVE WOMEN'S CORPS. THE PRESS COVERAGE CONCLUDED THAT ROMANIAN-ZAIRE RELATIONS PROVED THAT COUNTRIES WITH DIFFERENT POLITICAL SYSTEMS COULD COOPERATE TO THEIR MUTUAL BENEFIT TO THE DEGREE THAT EACH RESPECTS THE SOVEREIGNTY AND "AUTHENTICITY" OF THE OTHER.

C. IN FURTHER CONTRAST TO RECENT ATTACKS ON THE SOVIET  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 KINSHA 04352 02 OF 02 091320Z

UNION AND CUBA AND THE EXPULSION OF THE GDR, MOBUTU SENT A MESSAGE OF CONGRATULATIONS TO PRESIDENT HUSAK ON THE OCCASION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S NATIONAL DAY.

10. AMERICAN CITIZEN SITUATION/ STILL NO CONTACTS REPORTED BY AMCONSUL LUBUMBASHI WITH ANY OF THE MISSIONARIES IN OCCUPIED AREAS.  
WALKER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** REPORTS, INVASIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 09-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977KINSHA04352  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770162-0938  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** KINSHASA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770579/aaaacqlr.tel  
**Line Count:** 312  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 5e7d4698-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 6  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 19-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2598566  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SHABA INVASION: SITREP 55 (MAY 9, 1977) CONFIDENTIAL CONFIDENTIAL  
**TAGS:** MOPS, PINS, AEMR, CG  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/5e7d4698-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009